

## United States Senate

January 28, 2020

The Honorable David S. Johanson  
Chairman  
U.S. International Trade Commission  
500 E Street SW  
Washington, DC 20436

**Subject:** *Fabricated Structural Steel from Canada, China, and Mexico*  
**Inv. Nos.:** 701-TA-615-617 and 731-TA-1432-1434

Dear Chairman Johanson:

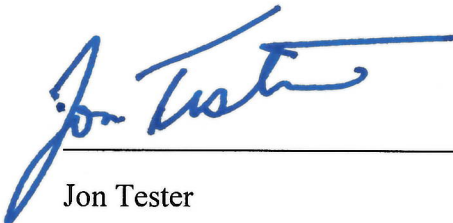
Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony for the record in today's hearing on Fabricated Structural Steel (FSS) from Canada, China, and Mexico. I am concerned about the negative effects that duties on Canadian FSS could have on Montana workers and infrastructure. American contractors do their best to purchase American steel products when it is feasible. However, in certain circumstances shortages and specific building requirements make it necessary to procure FSS products from Canada. To avoid disruption in integrated supply chains with Canada, I urge the International Trade Commission to reject any new duties on Canadian FSS.

Last year, the U.S. Department of Commerce opened an antidumping duty (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) investigation into FSS imports from Canada, Mexico, and China. While the Department of Commerce ruled affirmatively that all three nations sold FSS at less than fair market value, Commerce reached a negative determination with regard to countervailing duties applied to Canadian imports. This suggests that Canada does not subsidize its FSS products. Commerce recommended that no CVD duties should be collected from Canadian FSS imports, and closed this portion of the investigation.

As you weigh trade remedies for Canadian AD practices, I urge you to consider the highly integrated nature of the construction industry. General contracting and construction benefit from a consolidated supply chain wherein fabricators, manufacturers, and builders depend on each other to deliver timely and quality products to markets across the world. Tariff-free Canadian FSS products are integral to this supply chain, keeping steel bids competitive and construction costs low.

Imposing tariffs on FSS would have a negative impact on the U.S. construction industry and our nation's infrastructure. In Montana, this could put many highly-skilled workers out of a job, and halt the advancement of our growing communities. As such, I urge the Commission to reject AD duties on Canadian FSS. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Jon Tester", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized, with the first name "Jon" and last name "Tester" clearly visible.

Jon Tester